

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in this application.

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for detecting the presence of at least one of squamous cell carcinoma and prostate cancer in a subject comprising:

providing from the subject a tissue sample that is suspected of being cancerous, wherein the tissue sample is obtained from one or more of the skin, head, neck, prostate, testicle and pancreas of the subject;

providing at least one nucleic acid probe or primer that is capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions with a nucleic acid having a the sequence of either SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 3; and

assaying the sample with the at least one nucleic acid probe or primer to detect in the sample ribonucleic acid that is capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions with the at least one probe or primer;

wherein reduced level of detected ribonucleic acid, as compared to normal tissue sample taken from the same tissue of the same subject, is indicative of the presence of at least one of squamous cell carcinoma and prostate cancer.

- 2-22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the tissue sample is obtained from one or more of the head, neck, ~~or~~ and prostate of the subject.

24. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 25, wherein the tissue sample is obtained from one or more of the head ~~or~~ and neck of the subject.

25. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 23, wherein the tissue sample is obtained from the prostate of the subject.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one probe or primer is capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions with a nucleic acid having ~~a~~ the sequence of either nucleotides 626-1321 of SEQ ID NO: 1 or nucleotides 626-1321 of SEQ ID NO: 3.

28. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one nucleic acid probe or primer is chosen from SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 9, and SEQ ID NO: 10.

29. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the tissue sample is obtained from the skin of the subject.

30. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the tissue sample is obtained from the testicle of the subject.

31. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the tissue sample is obtained from the pancreas of the subject.